

1. (Amended) A method for fuel cell packaging comprising the steps of:

providing a fuel cell receptacle with a plurality of manifolds;

providing a plurality of fuel cells, the fuel cells including top and bottom sides and ports;

and

positioning the fuel cells within the fuel cell receptacle in a stack such that both the top and bottom sides of each of the fuel cells are in direct contact with the receptacle and each of the ports is interfaced with one of the manifolds.

6. (Amended) An apparatus for fuel cell packaging comprising:

a receptacle including a plurality of port interfaces, the receptacle being shaped to receive a stack of fuel cells with ports on opposing sides of the fuel cells such that the port interfaces directly contact each of the ports providing individual fluidic connections between each of the ports and the port interfaces that they respectively contact.